

August 2012

Dear DCPS Parents and Families,

For me, the first day of school is the most exciting and most important day of the year. Teachers and school leaders set the tone for high achievement, and students return to our buildings eager to learn, meet their teachers, and reconnect with friends.

As parents and caregivers, I know you also feel that sense of excitement as you prepare your children for a new school year. And, like me, you want the best for your children.

This year I am particularly excited to begin school because all DCPS school leaders, teachers and staff are beginning the important work that I have outlined in my new, five-year strategic plan called "*A Capital Commitment*."

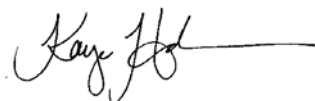
A Capital Commitment provides a roadmap for accelerating progress and building DC Public Schools into a high-quality, vibrant school district that earns the confidence of the entire community. The plan not only identifies five, clear goals that will ensure we are improving the quality of education for our students, it also allows you- our parents and caregivers- to understand exactly what we are working toward and to more accurately measure our progress in providing your children with a world-class education.

I know we have a lot of work ahead of us this school year, but I am certain we can overcome any challenges if we all rally behind our common goal... the success of our students. Nothing is more important.

I look forward to working with you as we all strive to prepare our students for success in college, careers and life. If you wish to learn more about how we plan to accomplish this, please visit <http://dcps.dc.gov/2017> to view a short video about our renewed commitment to this community.

Thank you so much for standing by DCPS and investing in our success. I look forward to another successful school opening and I wish you the best for a productive 2012-13 school year.

Sincerely,



Kaya Henderson
Chancellor